

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND AUTHORIZING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT AN INTERIM COMMITTEE TO REVIEW FUNDING NEEDS RELATING TO THE STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) has responsibility for approximately 5,000 centerline miles of highway and nearly 1,760 bridges in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, a recent legislative audit found that current funding for transportation cannot keep pace with the growth in costs to meet Idaho's basic transportation needs of preserving and restoring Idaho's highways and bridges; and

WHEREAS, this revenue shortfall in required funding is caused by a growing need for preservation and restoration of the state highway system made even more dire by the eventual need to preserve and restore capacity projects already programmed; and

WHEREAS, the recent economic downturn has produced an economy where tax increases will result in further economic hardship to many Idahoans; and

WHEREAS, it is undeniable that a reliable, resilient and effective transportation system is essential to the state's long-term growth; and

WHEREAS, the current transportation revenue structure will not meet the pressing transportation funding needs over the next 30 years; and

WHEREAS, transportation is not just a state problem but rather, it transcends all levels of government in Idaho with almost 300 jurisdictions having some role in the state's transportation network, such that transportation funding needs must be addressed at all levels of government and jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, federal funding cannot be relied upon to solve Idaho's transportation funding challenges; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's transportation funding must be addressed in a manner that is comprehensive and takes into full account changing fuel consumption patterns; and

WHEREAS, solutions to Idaho's transportation funding challenge will require innovative and perhaps nontraditional revenue sources; and

WHEREAS, a review of such issues should be done in a measured, deliberative manner, providing a wide array of policy options to move transportation funding forward for Idaho.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislative Council is authorized to appoint a fourteen member committee, comprised of seven members from each house, to undertake and complete a study of Idaho's transportation system, including a thorough review of current transportation funding and an analysis of nontraditional funding sources. The principal goal of the committee will be to make recommendations to the Second Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature to address Idaho's transportation funding shortfall. The Legislative Council shall determine the membership from

1 each house appointed to the committee and shall authorize the committee to receive input, ad-
2 vice and assistance from interested and affected parties who are not members of the Legislature.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nonlegislative members of the committee may be ap-
4 pointed by the cochair of the committee who are appointed by the Legislative Council. Non-
5 legislative members of the committee shall not be reimbursed from legislative funds for per
6 diem, mileage or other expenses and shall not have voting privileges regarding the committee's
7 recommendations or proposed legislation.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall report its findings, recommen-
9 dations and proposed legislation, if any, to the Second Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho
10 Legislature.